

## CLAIMS

1        1.        A method in a computer system for representing component having ports,  
2        the method comprising:

3                creating an object corresponding to the component;  
4                for each port of the object, creating a port object;  
5                organizing the the created port objects hierarchically.

6  
7        2.        A computer system for managing audio visual components comprising:  
8        a network system for managing temporal connections between the components;  
9        a session system for managing virtual circuits between the components; and  
10       a management system for managing streams between components.

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12       3.        A method in a computer system for establishing a path between a source  
13       port and a sing port, the method comprising:

14               requesting a stream from the source port;  
15               requesting an output component to provide a sink port that is appropriate for the  
16       received stream; and  
17               requesting the source port to create a virtual circuit to the sink port.